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REMARKS

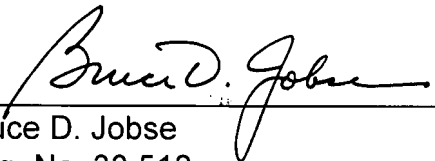
Prior to examining the above-identified application on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter the enclosed Preliminary Amendment. Applicant has made minor changes to the specification for greater clarity. No new matter is believed added to the application by the above amendments. In addition, Applicant has added claims 21-53 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicant's inventive contributions to the relevant arts. Support for these claims exists in the specification as filed.

Claims 21-22 and 43-53 conform with In re Beauregard, 35 U.S.P.Q. 2d, 1383 (Fed. Cir. 1995) and the new Patent and Trademark Office policy.

The claims are believed allowable over any of the references cited by the Applicant, whether considered singularly or in combination. Accordingly, Applicant believes this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general he is invited to call the Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 20-0065.

Respectfully submitted,



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